SENATE BILL NO. 1011

92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR DOUGHERTY.

Read 1st time January 7, 2004, and ordered printed.

3178S.01I

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

AN ACT

To amend chapter 376, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to insurance reimbursement for licensed professional counselors.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 376, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 376.1408, to read as follows:

- 376.1408. 1. This section shall apply to any health benefit plan, as defined by section 376.1350, which is issued for delivery, continued or renewed in this state on or after January 1, 2005, by a health carrier.
- 2. If a policy, contract, certificate, or health benefit plan, as that term is defined by section 376.1350, provides for reimbursement for a service that is within the lawful scope of practice of a licensed professional counselor, the rate of reimbursement for such services provided by a licensed professional counselor who has received a doctor of philosophy degree with a major in counseling, or its equivalent, shall be equivalent to the rate of reimbursement for a psychologist licensed pursuant to sections 337.010 to 337.090, RSMo.
- 3. As used in this section, the term "licensed professional counselor" shall have the same meaning ascribed to it in section 337.500, RSMo.